

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
EMPLOYER COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2015**

Committee Members Present: Martin Trueb, Chair, Monica Dzialo, Mike Grey, Constance Howes, Scott Jensen, Janet Raymond
Committee Members Not Present: John Gregory,
GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, Amelia Roberts, Dan Brown, Robert Kalaskowski, David Tremblay,
DLT Staff Present: Sue Chomka, Sue Biagioni, Diane Vendetti
Others Present: Malcolm Baxter, BIS;
Location: RI DLT, Conference Room 73-2

Call to Order

Chair Trueb called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Chair Trueb asked for a review of the minutes of the April 24, 2015 meeting. He asked if there was a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

VOTE: Constance Howes moved to approve, seconded by Scott Jensen. The motion passed unanimously.

Future Role of Employer Committee and Employer Advisory Group

Chair Trueb noted he and Constance Howes went around the State to various chambers to recruit businesses for the Employer Advisory Group, such as small business that didn't have access with the Industry Partnership. They stated the Governor has a lot of new ideas. Chair Trueb raised the question if we need to find another way to align ourselves with the Governor's vision. Chair Trueb has invited the Director Scott Jensen to join the meeting to participate in the discussion. Scott Jensen would like to discuss growing the Employer Advisory Group.

Chair Trueb highlighted the importance of the committees.

- Good Communication Forum.
- Focus on small business involvement.
- Discuss some keys issues that were discussed at previous meetings.
- New Initiatives.
- Employer Advisory Committee is to meet 2-3 times a year.
- Growing industry Partnership, reach out to companies that didn't fall under the partnership and provide opportunities.
- Connection to Higher Education / Workforce.
- Past meetings have focused on diversity, internships, youth programs, CTE programs.

Monica Dzialo noted when she talks to businesses they would like more information on how to develop a diverse workforce. She would like to see the IDD services program into the community and also make the businesses aware of employing people with disabilities. Mike Grey noted he enjoys the mission of the committee and what we are doing on helping

businesses. He feels there are many companies in the state that don't know our mission. We need to continue to grow connections to reach businesses that are not currently connected to workforce system and find a way to contact and educate. Chair Howes would like us to look at the outreach efforts by RI Department of Labor & Training and to make sure we are not duplicating their efforts.

Scott Jessen noted Real Jobs RI. He would like to see the committee align with the Governor's new initiatives and growing the committee. Real Jobs RI's new workforce development initiative invites employers within a specific industry or region to come together to identify common workforce challenges. In November 2015 the Real Jobs grants were awarded. The DLT awarded 26 Implementation grants to partnerships in 11 industries, as well as 4 regions. Several of the partnership are focused on building pathways to employment for specific populations such as low-income families, ex-offenders, and veterans. Chair Trueb would like to invite Director Jensen to attend one of the Employer Advisory Group meetings to discuss the Real Jobs RI Program. Janet Raymond would like the committee to help get this information out to companies in the community. Mike Grey said we need to do more marketing outreach on finding talented individuals.

A suggestion was made to invite new CCRI President Meghan Hughes to the next Employer Advisory Group meeting in early 2016. The committee would like to build a much better relationship between CCRI and the GWB. This would be a good chance to introduce the new president and the programs here at DLT, GWB, and CCRI.

Upcoming Topic for Discussion for 2016 Meetings (Chair Trueb)

- Education Forum with the New CCRI President Meghan Hughes. Discussion on:
 - Apprenticeship
 - Entry Level training
 - Other
- Real Jobs RI (June)
- WIOA (Fall)

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Trueb asked for a motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Constance Howes moved to approve, seconded by Mike Grey. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Brown